

COMMERCIAL FISHERMAN SAMPLE SURVEY QUESTIONS

----- DO NOT RETURN -----

To help introduce and begin to familiarize you with the Cooperative Research Survey you will receive if you choose to participate, the LDWF has enclosed a short series of example questions representing the types of survey questions that you can expect to be asked. These are example questions only and should not be returned. The length of the survey and number and types of questions asked is determined by your qualifying tier identified by LDWF through trip ticket records. The following table briefly summarizes the maximum number of questions that appear on the Cooperative Research Survey for Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3 qualified commercial fishermen. Please do not be intimidated by the length of the survey; you will only be required to respond to those questions pertaining to the fishery or fisheries you participate in.

TIER LEVEL	NUMBER SURVEY QUESTIONS	NUMBER SURVEY PAGES	PAYMENT AMOUNT
Tier 1	Questions 1-23	Pages 1-64	\$208.83
Tier 2	Questions 1-59	Pages 1-142	\$870.22
Tier 3	Questions 1-82	Pages 1-152	\$3,820.05

The following 3 pages list example questions taken from each of the three Cooperative Research Surveys (Tier 1, Tier 2 and Tier 3). Please keep in mind that these are examples only and should not be returned.

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries

Commercial Fisherman Cooperative Research Survey 2009: Tier 1

Tier 1 survey questions focus on descriptive information about commercial fishing industry and losses incurred by the commercial fisherman during Hurricanes Katrina/Rita in 2005 and Hurricanes Gustav/Ike in 2008. Below are some sample questions.

Sample Questions for Tier 1 Participants

To answer questions respondent will be required to check boxes and fill in the blank

- Were you a licensed commercial fisherman in Louisiana in **2005**?
- Please specify how frequently you harvested and sold the following commercial seafood types on your fishing trips **before Hurricane Katrina or Rita** of 2005. (Check only one box for each seafood type):
- Did you hold any of the following licenses in 2008? (Check all that apply):
- What is the highest level of education you have completed? (Check only one):
- What was your total household income in 2008 (including income from all household members and other sources)? (Check only one):
- How many miles was your place of residence from your most commonly used port, dock or launch prior to Hurricanes Katrina or Rita in 2005?
- Did you experience any of the following changes in the aftermath of **Hurricane Katrina or Rita**? (Please check all that apply):
- What was the estimated total dollar value of lost revenues from all of your commercial fishing operations during the following periods as a result of **Hurricane Katrina and Rita**? (Enter "0" if none for a particular period):
- How did the profits (i.e., gross revenue minus expenses and taxes) from your commercial fishing operations change as a result of **Hurricane Katrina or Rita**? (Please check only one):
- Please provide information by vessel length on the number of commercial fishing vessels that you owned before Hurricane Katrina or Rita hit Louisiana in 2005. Also enter the number that were damaged (but repairable) or completely destroyed by **Katrina or Rita**:
- Please check the types of your commercial fishing gear that were completely destroyed by **Hurricane Gustav or Ike** in 2008. Enter the number that were destroyed and their replacement costs (including improvements such as TED, BRD, etc.). Skip to **question 59** if none
- Did you apply to the following entities for disaster assistance or grants to help you recover from **Hurricane Gustav or Ike**? Check all that apply and indicate the amount of grants received
- Do you know of any waterway in your area that became silted in by Hurricanes Katrina, Rita, Gustav, or Ike?

Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries
Commercial Fisherman Cooperative Research Survey 2009: Tier 2

Tier 2 survey questions focus on equipment use, cost and return information related to specific fisheries (shrimp, crab, crawfish, oysters, and finfish). Below are some sample questions.

Sample Questions Tier 2

To answer questions respondent will be required to check boxes and fill in the blank

- What percentage of total revenues from commercial fishing operations were from the following sources in 2008? (Enter “0” if none for a particular source and make sure they add up to 100%):
- What is the current debt for your commercial fishing operations (including all mortgages and loans for property, equipment, vehicles, or other items purchased by your business)? (Enter “0” if none):
- What was your total gross revenue (before expenses and taxes) from shrimp fishing operations for 2008?
- What species of shrimp did you harvest in 2008? (Check all that apply):
- On average, how much of the following items did you use **per crab fishing trip** in 2008 and how much did they cost? (Enter “0” if you did not use a particular item):
- On average, what percentage of your annual crab catch (in weight) did you sell to the following buyers in 2008? (Enter “0” if none and make sure all percentages add up to 100%):
- What was the average total time spent on a wild caught crawfish fishing trip in 2008 (from vessel launch and back to the same vessel launch). (Enter “0” in the appropriate box if none)?
- What was the average soak time of your wild caught crawfish traps per trip in 2008?
- How many days did you harvest **pond raised crawfish** in 2008? (Enter “0” if none):
- How many acres of oyster leases did you personally hold in 2008 (Enter “0” if none for a particular lease type):
- What was the average crew size on an oyster fishing trip in 2008 (including captain and deckhands)? (Enter “0” if none):
- Did you utilize an oyster cargo vessel to transport your oyster catch from your vessel to the dock in 2008?
- How many acres did you transplant oysters to in 2008?
- How much (in total) did it cost you to transport and place cultch materials on your private oyster grounds in 2008?
- Please check the types of bait and enter the average amount (pounds or number) that you used **per finfish fishing trip** in 2008?

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Commercial Fisherman Cooperative Research Survey 2009: Tier 3

Tier 3 of the fisherman survey contains questions on financial and investment information. Additionally, it includes issues related to fishing operations and changes you would like to see in the Louisiana commercial fishing industry. Below are some sample questions.

Sample Questions Tier 3

To answer questions respondent will be required to check boxes and fill in the blank

- What is the Coast Guard Documentation or State Registration Number of this vessel?
- What was the cost of purchasing or building this vessel?
- What is the largest amount of catch of the primary species you checked in the previous question that this vessel can hold?
- How many engines do you have to propel this vessel? (Check only one)
- What months do you generally use this commercial fishing vessel? (Check all that apply)
- What type of toilet facility do you have on this vessel? (Please check only one)
- What types of electrical, electronic or hydraulic equipment is currently installed on this vessel? (Check all that apply and indicate how much you would spend if you were to replace them today)
- How much would you have to spend today to replace this vessel? (Include all improvements that have been made to the vessel). Please do not include gear.
- What was the average annual cost of all routine repairs or maintenance for this vessel in 2008? (Enter "0" if you did not have a significant routine repair or maintenance on the vessel):
- Did you purchase insurance coverage for this vessel in 2008? If "Yes," what was your total annual insurance premium payment in 2008?
- Do you currently have any formal agreements to sell your seafood catch to a specific seafood buyer or other business? If "Yes," what specific buyer or business type do you have formal agreements to sell your seafood catch to?
- Did you have any loans on this vessel in 2008? If "Yes," what was your monthly loan payment in 2008? What was the total interest payment on the loans for this vessel in 2008?
- Does your commercial fishing operation have a "season" when it is particularly busy? If "Yes", please check all of the months that are part of the busy "season" for your commercial fishing operation.
- Please use scales 1 - 5 below to rank the following problems or issues as they currently relate to your fishing operations (Check only one box for each problem or issue).
- Please use scales 1 - 5 below to indicate the major changes that you would like to see happen in the Louisiana commercial fishing industry. (Check only one box for each statement).